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A NEW SPECIES OF SENECIO (SECT. PALMATINERVII) FROM THE "ANTLER" REGION OF NORTHERN JALISCO

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ABSTRACT

A new species of Senecio, S. floresiorum B.L. Turner, belonging to the sect. *Palmatinervii* is described. It is closely related to S. mezquitalanus but differs in having smaller heads with smaller florets and fewer involucral bracts.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Senecioneae, Senecio, Roldana, México

Routine identification has revealed the following novelty.

Senecio floresiorum B.L. Turner, sp. nov. TYPE: MEXICO. Jalisco: Mpio. Totatiche, Rancho Acaspulco, 8 km al SW de Temastian, ca. 2000 m, 28 Jun 1991, A. Flores M. y J. Ma. Flores M. 2688 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotype: IGE).

Senecione mezquitalano B.L. Turner similis sed involucris 4-5 mm altis (vs. 7-8 mm) bracteis paucioribus (ca. 8 vs. 11-13) et flosculis radii ligulis minoribus (2-4 mm longis vs. 7-8 mm) differt.

Shrub to 1.5 m high. Stems densely velvety-tomentulose. Leaves mostly 9-12 cm long, 3.0-4.5 cm wide; petioles 2.0-2.5 cm long; blades weakly lobate, elliptic in outline, pinnately nervate, sparsely pilose-tomentulose beneath, especially along the major veins, the margins remotely serrulate. Capitulescence a terminal congested rounded cyme ca. 5 cm high, 8 cm wide, the ultimate peduncles mostly 3-5 mm long. Involucres campanulate, 4-5 mm high, the calyculus of 1-4 minute bractlets, the bracts ca. 8, lanceolate, glabrous, the apices acute. Receptacle convex, ca. 1.5 mm across, glabrous, markedly alveolate. Ray florets 3-5, fertile, the ligules yellow, 2-4 mm long, 1.0-1.5 mm wide, 4-nervate. Disk florets 17-21, the corollas yellow, glabrous, 5-6 mm long, the tubes ca. 2 mm long, the lobes ca. 1 mm long. Achenes (immature) narrowly obpyramidal to columnar, glabrous, 5-ribbed, the pappus of numerous fragile, readily deciduous white bristles 3-5 mm long.

Senecio floresiorum belongs to the sect. Palmatinervii as envisioned by Barkley (1985) where it relates to the recently described Senecio gesnerifolius B.L. Turner of Durango, which has been changed to S. mezquitalanus B.L. Turner because of the earlier S. gesnerifolius Cuatrecasas (Turner 1992). Senecio floresiorum is virtually identical to the latter in its habit and vegetative features, but has markedly different capitulescences and much smaller heads, the involucres 4-5 mm high, (vs. 7-8 mm high) having ca. 8 bracts (vs. 11-13 bracts) and larger florets, the rays with ligules 2-4 mm long (vs. 7-8 mm long).

It is a pleasure to name this species for the two collectors who have gathered an interesting set of plants from a previously poorly collected area of Jalisco, the "antlers" of Jalisco, specifically the more eastern prong, which is closely adjacent to the state of Zacatecas.

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